As we come to the close of the first semester of 2012 we give praise and thanks to God and acknowledge what He has enabled within each of our schools.

The LSA team wish all staff who are in a position to have leave at this time a safe and restful break.

The Parable of the Good Afghan Refugees

A man was driving along the Barossa Valley Way from Nuriootpa to Tanunda when he was run off the road by a gang of hoons. They bashed him up, stole his mobile phone and wallet, and drove off in his car. The man was left badly injured lying on the side of the road.

Then some teachers from a Lutheran school came along. They also passed him by, because they had reports to write and lessons to prepare when they got home.

But a car load of Afghan refugees, who had been pruning in a nearby vineyard, saw the man in his distress and they immediately came to his aid. They dressed and bandaged his wounds and used their car to take him to the hospital. They gave the nurses two $50 notes to cover the gap cost for the man’s treatment and said “tomorrow when we return to see how he is, we will reimburse you for any extra expenses that may be required.”

It has been my pleasure and privilege in recent days to facilitate extended sessions in a number of different settings around the country. These include Loxton Lutheran School (at Barmera), a Carlsruhe Retreat Group, an LEQ “out-sourced day” with Bethania Lutheran School at Mt Tamborine, the combined Lutheran schools staff conference in Alice Springs, Navigator College Port Lincoln and Faith College. Coming up this week, a two-day retreat with St Paul Blair Athol (at Hahndorf), Salisbury Kindy staff retreat next week, a retreat day at Denial Bay for Crossways Ceduna staff in July, Concordia Kindy at Sevenhill in August and a retreat day at Good Shepherd, Howard Springs, later in the year. Spiritual development sessions for whole staff groups are vital if we are serious about equipping our staff for the challenges associated with being an authentic Lutheran school.

Yesterday at Faith, Tanunda, we used the theme “Sharpening our view of service” as a prelude to the day of service activities for all staff in the local community. We explored service in the context of the 21st century world in which we operate and find ourselves challenged with the task of “selling Christianity”, when society in general largely does not want to know about it. We talked about the importance of using everyday language … hence my paraphrase (Barossa Valley translation) of the parable of the Good Samaritan, which we used to inform us of WHO we should serve … in effect, anyone who crosses our path … and in a global world isn’t that everyone?

Neville Grieger
Spiritual Development Facilitator
Central Australian Lutheran Schools Staff Conference
- 21 & 22 June, Alice Springs
The conference theme 'Love Comes to Life', based on the LCA SA/NT District Convention theme, explored building relationships the personal responsibility we have to the vitality and health of these relationships.

Both John Proeve and Neville Grieger represented the LSA Staff at the conference and conducted presentations. Bruce Sullivan, an eminently qualified presenter, ran interactive workshops on building vibrant and strong relationships. The following are a few snippets from one element of his presentation that do not require a specific context as they are relevant to each of us all of the time.

- A 'brand' is the collection of meanings that we carry around in our heads and our hearts about an organization. What meanings do you carry about your school?
- Our personal brand is the collection of meanings that others carry about in their heads and their hearts. Where are other people in their reaction to us?
- 'The best version of you is behaving your way to being effective'
- 'No one is judging our mission statements, they are judging how we live out these intentions'
- Why would anyone want to have a quality relationship with you?
- 'Most know what they don't want, but do not clarify what they do want!'
- Many times our initial attitude becomes the blocker to being able to move forward. We get caught in a whining spiral rather than in the creative activity of problem solving.
- Importantly, we need to focus our mind on the desired outcome rather than complaining about the time and the effort required to arrive at this destination.

Congratulations to Eunice Stoll, Andrew Mirtschin and the team of people who put together this invigorating conference program.

Appointment of LESER Director
Paul Weinert has been appointed as the new Director for Lutheran Education South Eastern Region. The South Eastern Region consists of Lutheran schools in NSW, Victoria and Tasmania. Paul is currently Lutheran Education Australia's Assistant Director: National Projects. It is likely that Paul will take up this role at the start of Term 4.

National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program
The Gillard Government will introduce legislation into the Parliament today following the decision of the High Court of Australia in Williams v the Commonwealth of Australia last Wednesday. The Government is committed to maintaining funding for community programs, including the National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program. Read the full media release Further information available on the DEEWR website including a number of Frequently Asked Questions.
Child Safe Environments - Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect (formerly Mandated Notification)
A number of courses are being conducted in metropolitan and country venues through July and August, both full day sessions and half day refresher sessions. Details and registration at www.safeplacetraining.com

Vacancies in Lutheran Schools
For details of positions vacant in Lutheran schools, follow the link below and click on “Vacancies in Lutheran schools”. www.lutheran.edu.au

LEA Canberra Connections
Literacy and numeracy week activities start early
This year's National Literacy and Numeracy Week activities are starting early with a wide variety of activities school students can be part of, including the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards, and online polls and conversations in the build-up to the week. The week officially begins on 27 August. Read the full media release

$19.6 million to build capacity of principals to help students
Students across Australia are set to benefit from the Gillard Government's $19.6 million investment in professional development and training for school principals. "Principals provide a crucial leadership and inspirational role in schools, and should have the tools they need to provide world class learning environments for Australian students," Minister for School Education, Peter Garrett said. Read the full media release

New student resources highlight the importance of water
Federal Water Minister Tony Burke yesterday launched four new major teaching units to help students across Australia learn about the importance of water. The four units aligned to the Australian Curriculum allow students to explore four key regions in Australia: the Murray-Darling Basin, Northern Australia and the Wet Tropics, the Lake Eyre Basin, and the Great Artesian Basin. Mr Burke said the teaching resources explore how natural water systems work, the ways we use water, and sustainable water management practices. Read the full media release

Navigator College
Lutheran Education Australia
Port Lincoln, South Australia

VACANCIES FOR 2013
Due to continued growth, Navigator College have the following vacancies for 2013.

Middle/Senior School Teachers
Year 6 – Year 12

Navigator College is seeking experienced Middle and Senior School Teachers for full time permanent and contract positions.

A specialisation and/or a combination of the following subject disciplines is sought;
- English
- Mathematics
- SOSE
- Music
- History
- Geography
- Japanese
- Textiles
- Design and Technology
- Food and Hospitality
- Drama
- Art/Design
- IPP
- Physical Education
- Humanities and Social Sciences

Please address the key criteria listed in the job specification for the above positions when applying.

Successful applicants will preferably be practising Christians who will uphold the ethos of our Lutheran College.

Enquires, applications and to obtain a copy of the Job and Persons Specification, please contact:

Email: dmoseby@navigator.sa.edu.au
Or
CONFIDENTIAL
To the Principal
Navigator College
PO Box 3199
PORT LINCOLN SA 5606

Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School
25th Anniversary
Saturday the 25th August
All past staff, students and families are invited to join us for a night of celebration.
More details on our website – www.goldengrove.sa.edu.au
RSVP to Elaine 82826001 / baldock.elaine@goldengrove.sa.edu.au